

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-11 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07 SP-02
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C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 0667

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, ID
SUBJECT: LDC ENERGY PROGRAM

REF: STATE 306671

1. E/C COUNS AND PETROLEUM OFFICER HELD ONE-AND-ONE-HALF HOUR MEETING WITH MIGAS DIRECTOR WIJARSO TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF INDONESIA'S INCLUSION IN PROPOSED LDC ENERGY PROGRAM. DURING MEETING EMBASSY OFFICERS DREW ON TALKING POINTS (REFTEL) AS WELL AS INFORMATION PROVIDED BY STATE/DOE TEAM DURING THEIR DECEMBER VISIT.

2. WIJARSO, WHO IS GOI'S FOREMOST ENERGY OFFICIAL, HAD ALREADY DISCUSSED PROPOSAL (ON BASIS OF OUR INITIAL APPROACH) WITH GOI CABINET MINISTERS WITH ENERGY RESPONSIBILITIES. WIJARSO'S CONCLUSIONS ARE AS FOLLOWS: A) GOI IS INTERESTED IN WORKING COOPERATIVELY WITH FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN ENERGY FIELD. CURRENTLY INDONESIA AND WORLD BANK ARE INITIATING STUDIES OF INDONESIAN COAL, FIREWOOD, AND ENERGY PRICING. WIJARSO SAID GOI WOULD BE PLEASED TO DEVELOP LINKS WITH US ENERGY INSTITUTIONS; B) WIJARSO SAID GOI WOULD WELCOME US SPONSORED STUDIES DESIGNED TO EXPAND GOI'S RESOURCE DATA
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BASE OR THAT ARE ORIGINAL ECON OR TECHNICAL STUDIES OF INDONESIA'S ENERGY SUB-SECTORS. HOWEVER, HE DID NOT SEE MUCH VALUE IN EFFORTS TO GATHER OR USE SPARSE EXISTING DATA. ACCORDING TO WIJARSO, BASIC TECHNICAL STUDIES AND ORIGINAL RESEARCH (I.E. DATA COLLECTION) ARE INDONESIA'S PRESENT NEEDS, AND US ASSISTANCE IN THESE AREAS AND/OR IN UPGRADING INDONESIA'S FORECASTING TECH-

NIQUES WOULD BE APPRECIATED; C) WITH RESPECT TO THE SPECIFIC USG LDC ENERGY PROGRAM UNDER DISCUSSION, WIJARSO SIAD GOI WOULD NOT BE ABLE PARTICIPATE THIS YEAR, CITING LACK OF ADEQUATE DATA BASE, NEED FOR ADDITIONAL BASIC RESEARCH, AND TIMING CONSTRAINTS AS REASONS FOR DECISION. HE SAID AN EFFORT TO COMPLETE THE TYPE OF STUDY PROPOSED BY USG FOR INDONESIA WITHIN THE NEXT EIGHT MONTHS WOULD LEAD TO "DISSAPOINTMENT" AND "FRUSTRATION", AND THAT THIS WOULD NOT BE IN THE INTEREST OF ESTABLISHING A LONGER RANGE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DOE AND GOI.

3. WE BELIEVE GOI'S DECISION NOT TO PARTICIPATE THIS YEAR IN LDC ENERGY PROGRAM IS BASED ON REALISTIC ASSESSMENT OF INDONESIA'S NEEDS AND ABILITIES IN THE ENERGY SECTOR. IT IS CLEAR, HOWEVER, THE GOI DOES NOT WANT TO CLOSE THE DOOR ON FUTURE COOPERATION WITH USG IN ENERGY FIELD. INDONESIA MAY BE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN PROPOSED LDC ENERGY PROGRAM SOME TIME IN FUTURE AND IS PREPARED EVEN NOW TO WELCOME ACTIVITIES OF TYPE OUTLINED IN PARA 2(B) ABOVE.
MASTERS

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